

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 11-13 and 30-33 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5 and 21-23 are withdrawn from consideration. However, because claims 3-5 and 21-23 depend from independent claims 1 and 19, respectfully, upon allowance of claims 1 and 19, rejoinder and allowance of claims 3-5 and 21-23 are respectfully requested.

Because dependent claims 30-33 are rejected only under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as discussed below, Applicants understand that these claims are allowable when the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is overcome.

Claims 11-13, 18 and 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 11-13 and 30-33 are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 8, 19, 20 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0001400 to Amble et al. (hereinafter "Amble"); and rejects claims 6, 7, 9, 10, 14-18, 24-26, 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Amble. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that when a diffraction beam is generated in a recording layer of a holographic recording medium by projecting a reproduction beam onto interference fringes formed by projecting an object beam and a reference beam onto the recording layer to thereby reproduce information from this diffraction beam, a servo beam which satisfies the Bragg condition while at least one of the wavelength, incident angle, and incident direction thereof is different from that of the reproduction beam is projected onto the interference fringes. Independent claim 19 recites features similar to those of claim 1.

Amble discloses a wide band servo system 64 including a servo or guide plane 34 and a narrow band offset servo system 74 including embedded servo information in a data plane 18. The servo or guide plane 34 is separated from the data plane 18, and a servo beam 24 is generated by a laser 26, which is different from a laser source for R/W beam 12, and the servo beam 24 is focused on the servo or guide plane 34. The embedded servo information is read by an R/W beam 12, detected by a data detector 62 and demodulated by a servo demodulator 76. The servo beam in the narrow band offset servo system 74 is identical with the R/W beam 12.

In Amble, the wide band servo system 64 does not disclose or suggest "when a diffraction beam is generated in a recording layer of a holographic recording medium by projecting a reproduction beam onto interference fringes formed by projecting an object beam and a reference beam onto the recording layer to thereby reproduce information from this diffraction beam, a servo beam which satisfies the Bragg condition while at least one of the wavelength, incident angle, and incident direction thereof is different from that of the reproduction beam is projected onto the interference fringes," as recited in claim 1. In Amble, the narrow band servo system 74 does not perform a holographic memory reproduction method, in which a servo beam that satisfies the Bragg condition while at least one of the wavelength, incident angle, and incident direction thereof is different from that of the reproduction beam is projected onto the interference fringes, as recited in claim 1. Further, Amble fails to disclose or suggest "a servo beam which satisfies the Bragg condition."

At least for these reasons, claims 1 and 19 are patentable over Amble.

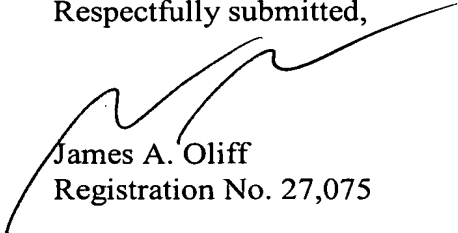
Dependent claims 2, 6-18, 20 and 24-29 are allowable at least for their dependence on claims 1 and 19, as well as for the additional features they recite.

At least for these reasons, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 10, 2009

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